

EPCC NEWS

Evansville Psychiatric Children's Center
Volume 19, Issue 1
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The Joint Commission Accredited
Medicaid Certified
"Helping Kids SOAR"



Christmas at EPCC



Our facility is fortunate to have so many Community Friends who volunteer and spend time with our kids and who generously donate funds and materials to us. The Christmas season is one time of the year when our Community Friends really shine.

In this year's Christmas edition, we would like to feature some of our groups of Community Friends who have made it their tradition every year during the Holiday season to donate time, talents, and materials to EPCC's kids. We would like to thank them for their continued support.

Nursing Students from Vincennes University—Jasper Campus, along with their instructor, Melissa Belcher, come together each year to collect warm clothing, shoes, hats, gloves, toys, games, and puzzles for our children. Melissa then delivers the bounty of gifts in person to EPCC.

Generous folks from St. Benedict Catholic Church of Evansville bring a warm hooded sweatshirt and game for each child, beautifully wrapped and ready to present to the children on Christmas morning.

Friends from Olivet Presbyterian Church of Evansville come to EPCC every year on a December evening to provide a festive Christmas party including games, caroling, making tie blankets, and a gift bag for each child containing warm pajamas and a new toy.

The Christian Motorcycle Association of Evansville visit EPCC's kids on a Saturday afternoon every December to perform an entertaining Christmas play. The children also get to make a craft project, play a game, enjoy a "Happy Birthday Jesus" cake, and get a photo opportunity with the motorcycles!



The Evansville Northside Kiwanis group stop by in the evening during the holiday season to provide some Christmas cheer

with a Christmas party filled with fun games, crafts, snacks, and gifts.

Bible Center Cathedral of Evansville provide a pizza party along with a Bible Fun lesson on a Sunday evening during the Christmas season.

The Junior Mental Health Association provides funds and volunteer hours each Christmas with "Santa's Workshop", a program in which the children "shop" for gifts to give to family members. The volunteers then wrap the gifts attractively, and the kids proudly present them to their families.

And last, but certainly not least, we have Ms. Neeley. Originally, she served as an Art Therapy intern with University of Evansville at EPCC, and has been an amazing support for our kids and our facility ever since. We hear from Ms. Neeley every year during the holidays. We give her an update on all the exciting happenings of the past year, and a Christmas "Wish List" from the kids. She never fails to come through and provide just what the children ask for. She is our own personal "Ms. Claus".



We would say Thank You to new Community Friends and Groups who donated or volunteered with us this year also.

If you would like to volunteer at or donate to EPCC not only at Christmas time, but year-round, please contact the Community Services Director at 812-477-6436 x 232.



**FOR LAST YEAR'S
WORDS BELONG
TO LAST YEAR'S
LANGUAGE**

**AND NEXT YEAR'S
WORDS AWAIT
ANOTHER VOICE**

T. S. Eliot



911 Gives Hope for Christmas

A group of Tri-State Law Enforcement, Firefighters, and First Responders come together every year at Christmas and put in many volunteer hours collecting and distributing toys to Tri-State hospitals which serve children. In addition, these volunteers hold fundraisers throughout the year to raise money for the annual 911 Gives Hope Toy Drive.

EPCC's kids have been at the top of the list for receiving toys every year since the beginning of this charity event.

2018 is 911 Gives Hope's 12th year of giving, and EPCC was certainly grateful for the bounty that was delivered on December 19th.

All the staff at Evansville Psychiatric Children's Center would like to say Thank You to the 911 Gives Hope organization for being Christmas heroes again this year.



EPCC would like to give a "shout out" of gratitude to St. James West United Methodist Church of Evansville, IN for their kindness and generosity to our staff.

The delicious treats provided each month are greatly appreciated and enjoyed by everyone.

Thank you St. James UCC for your selfless ministry and for taking care of us!

Look What We Did



EPCC's kids received a donation of a beautiful kitchen and laundry playset and a Fresh Mart grocery store playset from one of our most generous and supportive Community Friends.

Once these playsets were assembled by our helpful Maintenance team, EPCC's Clinical Director, Pam Dewey-Pugh, and Occupational Therapist, Katlyn Holman-Roach were instrumental in repurposing an empty office into a Life Skills Room in which these playsets could be used to facilitate programming which teaches children how to cook, bake, clean up after themselves, do their laundry, shop for groceries, plan a budget, and even learn a few basic career skills.

We are grateful to have this equipment and we hope our new Life Skills program is successful in helping to prepare our kids for living in the community and becoming prosperous adults.

Watch for updates on this Life Skills



Did You Know?

- EPCC served 38 children during the 2017-18 fiscal year.
- EPCC has served **over 1380** children since opening in 1966.
- The SAMHSA Grant activities resulted in elimination of the use of seclusion and a significant reduction in the use of staff-to-patient restraints.

You Can Help!

The following items are always needed for the children and their activities: gift cards to Tools For Teaching, Michael's/ Hobby Lobby/JoAnn Fabrics, Five Below, Showplace Cinemas, AMC 16 Theaters, Walther's Golf n Fun, ARC Lanes/Diamond Lanes/Franklin Lanes.

Other items that are welcomed at any time are kid-friendly toiletry items (shampoo, body wash, toothbrush/toothpaste, deodorant), and kid-friendly craft kits and craft supplies (no yarn, string, or pipe cleaners).

Are We Doing Our Best?

It is the policy of EPCC to handle all concerns or questions in a timely manner.

If you have concerns or questions about patient rights, quality of patient care or safety, or ethical issues, please use the following steps.

Contact EPCC's management at 812-477-6436.

If concerns or questions cannot be resolved at the EPCC management level, you may contact:

Indiana Division of Mental Health and Addiction, Consumer Services or

Monday - Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Phone - 1-800-901-1133
TDD - 1-317-232-7844

Indiana Protection and Advocacy Services

1-800-758-5264.

If concerns or questions cannot be resolved at any of these levels, you may contact:

The Joint Commission

Phone - 1-630-792-5800
Web site - www.jointcommission.org

The Joint Commission is a voluntary accreditation program in which EPCC participates. The Joint Commission's mission is to continuously improve the safety and quality of care provided to the public through provision of health care accreditation and related services that support performance improvement in health care organizations.

We're Ready for Your Referrals

Refer through the assigned liaison from your MHC.
Referral packet information needed includes:

Psychology Evaluation with IQ
State Hospital Referral Form
CANS
Psychiatric Evaluation from your MD

Contact Sharon Austin at 812-477-6436, x226

**Need to contact us?
Call 812-477-6436 (exts. listed below) or email**

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MISSION
Resolve Needs – Build Strengths

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Published periodically
for employees and friends of EPCC.

Evansville Psychiatric Children's Center
Division of Mental Health & Addiction

